

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

DECEMBER 20, 2011

Reward Extension Offer

On Sunday, December 3, 1978, Palmdale resident Leslie Long, FW/20 and mother of three small children, was working her evening shift at the Chevron Gas Station located at the corner of Palmdale Boulevard and Division Street, in the City of Palmdale (now Alliance Gas), when unknown suspects entered the office area and robbed her of the money inside the location's floor safe. The suspects then kidnapped Victim Long at gun point.

At approximately 9:30 P.M. Victim Long was discovered missing when a customer entered the office area and attempted to pay for his gas. The customer found the gas station office wide open and lights turned on but there was no attendant in sight. The customer saw that the floor safe was open and empty and numerous coins were scattered on the floor. The victim's purse was still in the office and her vehicle still parked behind the gas station. Antelope Valley Deputies were called and they began a massive manhunt for Leslie Long.

On Wednesday, December 6, 1978 the search for Victim Long ended. Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Aero Bureau found Victim Long's body at the base of a small hill just off of the 14 freeway at Soledad Canyon Road in Acton, eight miles south of the Chevron gas station. Homicide investigators responded to the scene and discovered she had been shot and killed at this location. An autopsy later revealed she had also been sexually assaulted. Evidence at the crime scene revealed at least 2 suspects were involved, perhaps more.

In the months to follow there was extensive media coverage of the robbery/kidnap/murder. It was learned that two prisoners had escaped from a prison in Northern California just three days prior to Victim Long's murder. There were

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circumstances that seemed to link the escapees with Long's murder. The escaped prisoners were soon recaptured and though there was a lack of evidence to charge them with the Long murder, it was believed they were involved. This is the last impression that was left with the general public. The investigation went cold.

Recently, with DNA technology, both prison escapees were *excluded* from the trace evidence found at the crime scene. They are no longer suspects and this case remains open and unsolved.

"Crime Stoppers Case Files," the Los Angeles Regional Crime Stoppers Television Program has partnered with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Homicide Bureau and the surviving family members of Victim Leslie Long to air a re-enactment of the robbery/kidnap/murder. The program is tentatively scheduled to air on KCAL 9 on Sunday night, October 9, 2011 at 11:30 P.M.

The \$20,000 reward offer approved by this Board on October 4, 2011 is due to expire on January 2, 2012 and the Sheriff's Department is requesting an extension.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors extend the \$20,000 in exchange for any information leading to the arrest and/or conviction of the person(s) responsible for the heinous murder of 20-year old Palmdale resident Leslie Long on Sunday, December 3, 1978.

Contact:

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Homicide
Detective Brian Schoonmaker
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